

January 2012 | Volume 3 | Issue 24



Council Member

Mike Sullivan's Newsletter

Residents of District E,

The Christmas holidays are behind us and we are preparing for the new year. What does that bring for us at city hall? Lots of changes. New council members, new committee assignments, continuing (but improving) budget shortfalls, and newly drawn city council districts.

January 1, 2012 was the date that the new council district boundaries took effect. As I have said before, District E remains largely the same, with the exception of losing the areas west of the Gulf Freeway. It has been a pleasure serving the area that now goes over to District D. There are many accomplishments to be proud of; the new Bracewell Library and Sagemont Community Center, forming close working relations with Pasadena ISD, keeping Telephone Road police storefront open, improvements to several parks, cleaning up vacant lots and abandoned houses, ensuring that police and fire were fully staffed and equipped to do their job, moving forward with several flood and drainage projects, new and improved roads, and lastly, working closely with Harris County.

The main population centers of District E are still "Kingwood and Clear Lake", with various areas in between. The district also includes the Houston Ship Channel, Ellington Field, and NASA/Johnson Space Center. My goals for 2012 are to open the Kingwood Community Center, continue economic development activities at Ellington Field, work on job retention initiatives at NASA/JSC, and support BAHEP in their efforts to improve economic development in the bay area. I will continue to work closely with our school districts, Lone Star College-Kingwood, UH-Clear Lake (especially as it grows from a upper level campus to a full 4-year campus), and our chambers of commerce.

Town hall meetings will be held on a regular and frequent schedule so my constituents can hear what is happening at city hall, and have the opportunity to offer their input on how things are done. There will be at least one town hall meeting with a "hurricane preparedness" theme, as there has been for the past four years. Please know that public safety will continue to always be one of my highest priorities. I am committed to providing the tools and training necessary for our police and fire to respond to emergencies, and where appropriate, provide proactive services for the public. We will continue to ensure that trash is picked up, potholes are filled, and that police and fire respond when you call.

I have to believe that my city council staff offers the best constituent services in the city. Frankly, we are proud of the "customer service" we provide, and I want to publicly thank them for the great work they do. They are committed, educated, experienced, and caring. Each one brings a unique skill set to my office, and collectively, they are the best. They work well together to get things done.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you.

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Mayor's Holiday Celebration and Tree Lighting

On December 2nd, Council Member Sullivan attended the Mayor's Annual holiday celebration in front of city hall. This is a family friendly event filled with live music, good eats, fireworks and holiday cheer. Council Member Sullivan enjoyed this event and looks forward to next year.

Houston Police Officers' Union

On December 1, 2011
Council Member Sullivan



Mike Sullivan
Council Member

House Committee on Small Business and Economic Development

On December 9th, Council Member Sullivan attended the House Committee on Small Business and Economic Development at the Nassau Bay City Hall council chambers. Chairman John Davis, and other committee members invited representatives from NASA-JSC, Lockheed Martin, Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, Bell Helicopter, Boeing, SpaceX, Houston Technology Center, San Antonio, Arlington Chamber of Commences and many others to testify, as the committee examined Texas' aerospace/defense cluster initiatives in an effort to remain competitive in today's economic arena.



Council Member Sullivan, Walter Ulrich, President & CEO, Houston Technology Center, Paul Diggins, The Boeing Company, and Dan Seal, Executive Director of BAHEP.

Townhall Meeting Discussing Chapter 8

On December 19th, Council Member Sullivan attended a townhall meeting to discuss Chapter 8 of the City's Code of Ordinances, hosted by District I Council Member James Rodriguez. Chapter 8 is an ordinance which places extensive regulations on small businesses. Council Member Sullivan wanted to attend to hear the overwhelming opposition of over 200 citizens that came out on a rainy night to fight for their business and to voice their opinion about this prospective ordinance. These proposed ordinance changes will be brought before city council in February.



University of Houston- Clear Lake President's Reception



Senator Mike Jackson, President Bill Staples, Pearland Mayor Tom Reid, and Council Member Mike Sullivan.

On December 7, 2011, Council Member Sullivan attended the University of Houston-Clear Lake President's Reception at Bay Oaks Country Club. This event honored the University's President, Mr. Bill Staples and offered a chance for facility, administrators and community members to visit with him. This reception also provided a time for individuals to mingle with others before another year came to an end.

Water Resource Management Committee

Council Member Sullivan gaveled in a Water Resources Management Committee meeting

attended the monthly HPOU general membership meeting. Each month, HPOU dedicates their meeting in honor of a fallen hero, the month of December was dedicated to Officer James Boswell who was killed in the line of duty in 1989. Awards were also given to the FTO of the Month of October to Officer Tim Trometer. In closing, 72 new members from Class 211, three new active members and one retired member were accepted into the union. Council Member Sullivan wants to thank HPOU for always inviting him to the monthly meetings and congratulates the new members accepted into the union.

Dynamo Stadium Ceremony

On December 14th, Council Member Sullivan's Chief of Staff, Monica Aizpurua and South Sector Manager, Allie VanDeventer joined the Houston Dynamo as they announced and celebrated the name of the new Dynamo Stadium. The world class soccer stadium is now named, BBVA Compass Stadium, set to open in May 2012.

HPOU Holiday Event

On December 13th, Council Member Sullivan joined member of the police union as they celebrated the holiday season. During the celebrations, Council Member Sullivan had the opportunity to visit with the Police Union leadership and thank them for their service and dedication to the citizens of Houston.

Minority & Women-owned Business Enterprise Committee Meeting

On December 8th, Council Member Sullivan attended the MWBE committee meeting in the council chambers, chaired by Council Member Rodriguez. On the agenda was Texas Sterling Construction, a company that was performing road/sewer work in the south sector of

on December 1, 2011. Council Member Sullivan invited Mark Loethen, CFM Deputy Director, to update both the committee members and the public on the City Houston's implementation of Subsidence District Requirements. Council Member Sullivan appreciates the attendance of the committee members and other city representatives.



Council Member Sullivan chairing the Water Resource Management Meeting.

District E, during this project they were unable to reach their MWBE requirements. The committee agreed to allow Texas Sterling Construction to fulfill their requirements through other ongoing projections with the City of Houston.

HPD Ride-Along

Over the holidays, Council Member Sullivan rode along with Houston police Department Officer Lee Hale of the South Central station, and Senior Officer Colleen Nelson of the Midwest Station to witness a typical night an HPD officer experiences and to understand the way calls are responded. During the ride, they checked many areas such as, parks, game rooms, apartments and businesses. Council Member Sullivan places a high priority on the ride-alongs that he participates in and tries to schedule them often. He thanks all officers that arranged the ride-along and the officers that took their time to take him along.

2011 Runoff Elections



The much anticipated runoff elections for Houston City Council occurred on December 10, 2011. On election night, Council Member Sullivan joined supporters and family of candidate, Jack Christie as they watched results come in and ultimately celebrated Christie's victory over former Council Member Jolanda Jones for At-Large Position 5. Also, that evening Council Member Sullivan stopped by to congratulate newly elected Council Member Helena Brown

in her win of District A.

Political Protocol Committee Meeting

On December 7th, Council Member Sullivan attended Bay Area Houston's monthly Political Protocol Committee Meeting. Committee Chairwoman, Marcy Fryday opened the meeting by inviting Clear Lake Chamber President, Cindy Harrel to give an overview of various State Boards and Commissions that have an impact on small businesses. This meeting also allowed members of the committee the opportunity to discuss ideas and suggestions for the upcoming year.



Barbara Cutsinger, Council Member Sullivan, and Harriet Lukee.

LSC Chancellor's Advisory Committee

Council Member Sullivan attended the Lone Star College Chancellor's Advisory Committee Meeting on December 8, 2011. This meeting was a year-end wrap up to discuss the college district system, most specifically Kingwood College.

Houston Police Department's "Shop With A Cop"



Blue Santa and Council Member Sullivan

On December 7th, Council Member Sullivan attended "Shop with A Cop" at Target, located on Taylor Street. Houston Police Officers joined twenty children affiliated with Harris County Children's Protective Services in a shopping spree. Each child was given a \$100 Target card and paired with an officer as they shopped for items on their holiday wish list. Council Member Sullivan deeply enjoyed watching the children prepare for their shopping spree.

Christmas Events

Last month, Council Member Sullivan was invited to and attended several Christmas parties throughout the city and his district. Council Member Sullivan extends his sincerest thanks for being able to celebrate the Christmas holidays with various people and organizations. He wishes everyone a Happy New Year and looks forward to continuing to serve the city and his district in 2012.

Lake Houston Chamber

The morning of December 13th, Council Member Sullivan attended Lake Houston Chamber- Governmental Affairs Committee meeting. Senator Tommy Williams, Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee addressed the membership on transportation issues and how to effectively plan mobility for the anticipated growth in the state's population.

BAHEP Annual Holiday Party

On December 14, 2011, Council Member Mike Sullivan attended the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership annual holiday party at The Admiral. Council Member Sullivan enjoyed visiting with everyone at the party and looks forward to another great year with BAHEP.



Council Member Sullivan with Shawn Parker of TXU energy.

Grant presented to Kingwood's Village Learning Center



On December 16, 2011, Kingwood's Village Learning Center, Inc. was presented with a 500,000 thousand dollar Affordable Housing Program (AHP) grants by Amegy Bank of Texas and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas (FHLB Dallas). Council Member Sullivan's North Sector Manager, Kelly Waterman was in attendance to congratulate the centers founder and C.E.O., Kim Brusatori, on this momentous occasion.

NASA Space Agreement

On Monday, December 19th, Council Member Sullivan attended the signing agreement of the NASA Shuttle Motion Simulator to Texas A&M University in College Station. The NASA-A&M partnership will allow the university to house and showcase this NASA artifact. The shuttle simulator provided a full-motion simulation of shuttle launches and landing for every crew that has ever flown on the shuttle. The SMS began its operations at Johnson Space Center in 1977 and was used for 135 missions. Texans should be proud that this unique piece of the shuttle program will be staying in Texas and used to inspire future engineers.



A&M President, Dr. Loftin, JSC Deputy Director, Dr. Ellen Ochoa, and Council Member Sullivan.

Sullivan presents certificate to Val Jahnke Training Facility

Council Member Sullivan joined the Houston Fire Department- Val Jahnke Training Facility for lunch on Tuesday, December 20th. Council Member Sullivan presented Chief Josef Gregory and the training facility staff with a certificate of appreciation for their

CIP Meetings

Council Member Sullivan and the Mayor's Office will be hosting a series of Capital Improvement Project meetings in the first quarter of 2012 in District E. Although, Council Member Sullivan is still in the process of scheduling meetings for Kingwood and Clear Lake, please make note they will occur sometime in mid- February and March. Once scheduled, we will notify residents via email blasts, newsletter and local papers.

CIP meetings are held every year to inform citizens of upcoming projects that are scheduled in their respective communities. The meetings also afford citizens an opportunity to voice their concerns and to address their respective city officials. Citizens can fill out a CIP request form at any time by clicking here, or calling 3-1-1 directly. For more information and specific details of the CIP projects in your area, [CLICK HERE](#).

Christmas Tree Recycling

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department will embark on its 21st year of Christmas Tree recycling after the holiday by providing recycling drop-off sites throughout Houston.

Every year, Houstonians discard thousands of used Christmas trees that could be recycled into useable items. The COH is encouraging residents to recycle their Christmas Trees to give them a new lease on life and make the recycling of Christmas trees a family tradition.

For more information on tree recycling; [CLICK HERE](#).

Tree Waste

Council Member Sullivan reminds District E residents that the City of Houston's Solid Waste Management Department will only pick up Tree Waste in January. Tree Waste is



*Chief Gregory and
Council Member
Sullivan.*

dedication and timeless service. As of January 1, 2012, both of these stations will be redistricted to Council District D. Council Member Sullivan feels privileged to have represented such an integral component of District E.

defined as "clean" wood waste such as tree limbs, branches and stumps. Lumber, furniture and treated wood will NOT be accepted.

For more information;
[Click Here](#)

University of Houston History Reception

On December 6th 2011, Council Member Mike Sullivan attended the for The University of Houston History Magazine launch party at Sombreros, in Houston's Historic East End . While there, Council Member Sullivan spoke with community leaders and congratulated the magazines managing editor, Debbie Harwell on the auspicious occasion. Coincidentally, Ms. Harwell is a constituent, residing in Kingwood.



*Houston History Magazine
Managing Editor Debbie Harwell
pictured with Council Member Mike
Sullivan.*

E-Recycling

Kingwood Metro Center
3210 W. Lake Houston
Pkwy
1st Saturday of the month

Ellington Recycle Center
Hwy 3 @Brantley Rd.
2nd Saturday of the month

**For more information,
and accepted materials:**
[Click Here](#)

Leadership Lake Houston Governmental Day



On December 13, 2011, Council Member Sullivan spoke to the inaugural Leadership Lake Houston Class at the City's Northeast Water Treatment Plant. As the chair of the city's Water Resources Committee, Council Member Sullivan discussed the role of Lake Houston as a regional water supplier and introduced Public Works Deputy Director, Mark Loethen to discuss water issues.

Committee Information

Water Resource
Management, Chair

Ethics and Council
Governance, Chair

Schedules & additional
information: [Click Here](#)

Baytran Event

On December 8, 2011, Council Member Sullivan attended Baytran's mix, mingle and networking event at Sullivan's Steakhouse. At the mixer, Council Member Sullivan had the opportunity to thank the members of Baytran for their hard work with the regional transportation issue.

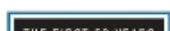


We're on the Web!
See us at:

www.houstontx.gov



Johnson Space Center Holiday Reception



On December 8, 2011, Council Member Sullivan attended

Johnson Space Center- Office of the Director's Holiday Reception in the Gilruth Ballroom. Council Member Sullivan had the pleasure of visiting with many of his constituents and was pleased to see that Congresswoman Gabriel Giffords and her husband, NASA Astronaut Mark Kelly were both at the reception, looking cheerful and joining in the holiday celebrations.

The 50th Annual Boat Parade

December 10, 2011 marked The 50th Annual League City Holiday Boat Parade. More than 100,000 people joined together to enjoy this event. Council Member Sullivan was proud to sponsor the individual award for the 3rd Place winner. He congratulates Nicholas Casey on his 3rd Place Win for boat number 116.



Joe Mayer, Chairman of Clear Lake Chamber, Nicholas Casey, and Dedra Flynn Area Promotions Division Chairman for the Chamber.

